

as an institute of higher education serving 29 students from working class and farm families in the Kansas Territory. In 1863, during the Civil War, Bluemont College became the Kansas State Agriculture College, the first land grant university under President Lincoln's Morrill Act, and was only the second public institution of higher education to admit men and women equally.

Today, more than 24,000 students from all 50 states and more than 90 countries around the world study at one of Kansas State's three locations: the main campus in Manhattan, better known as the Little Apple; the College of Technology and Aviation in Salina; and the new state-of-the-art Olathe campus, which is currently preparing graduate students in the innovative fields of bioscience and biotechnology.

Kansas State University is among the top 75 public universities, and offers more than 250 undergraduate majors, 65 master's degrees, 45 doctoral degrees and 22 graduate certificates in multiple disciplines. The university ranks first nationally among state universities in Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Goldwater, and Udall scholars with 135 recipients, and the Kansas State University College of Engineering was recently named one of the best undergraduate engineering programs in the nation, according to U.S. News and World Report.

Kansas State has a wonderfully supportive community, better known as the K-State family, and it is serious business. Let me give you an example. Six years ago, students created the K-State Proud campaign. Driven by the idea of how a family takes care of one another, the Proud campaign established a culture of philanthropy and to date has raised more than half a million dollars to fund 300 scholarships for students who are struggling financially due to challenges from health issues, natural disasters, or family tragedy. This is in addition to the \$200 million in scholarships, grants, loans and work study Kansas State distributes each year.

With 16 men's and women's athletic programs, more than 475 student organizations, and more than 20 club sports, cultivating a positive and encouraging sense of student life is a high priority. The Princeton Review recently ranked Kansas State as second in the nation for excellent campus and community relations and No. 14 for quality of life.

If you ask anyone what they remember most about their time at Kansas State University, they will tell you without a doubt, it is the people. It is where they met their best friends, their husbands or wives, and it is where they hope their children choose to attend.

Graduates of Kansas State University have gone on to do many great things for this country, and I am not only referring to those who entered public service as a member of the House, Senate, or even the Kansas governor. Notable Kansas State alumni include: presidents of colleges and universities; chairmen and CEOs of major companies, Olympic gold medalists, Emmy Award winners, as well as the creator of the snooze alarm, and the inventor of the Space Pen.

On this historic anniversary, it is my honor to recognize my alma mater, Kansas State University, on 150 years of excellence. I can only image the remarkable things the future holds for Kansas State and the talented individuals it will educate and inspire. Congratulations.

BARBARA J. WRIGHT

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter.

BARBARA WRIGHT, WORKERS RIGHTS CENTER,
10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

My name is Barbara J. Wright, and I am a resident of Madison, Wisconsin. I have been married twice in my life, both times to husbands who were born in other countries. I have two children from my first marriage. Cesar Gabriel Moran, 39, is a firmware engineer in St. Paul Minnesota and Nickolas James Moran is a jazz musician here in Madison.

On July 27th, 1972, I married Cesar Edmundo Moran in Magdalena del Mar, Lima Peru. I was 19 years old and he was 18. We were married for 25 years. He had been studying in Platteville, Wisconsin at the University of Platteville. When we left the country to travel to Peru (we hitch-hiked there!), he lost his student visa. After we married in Peru, I returned to the US and filed for him to get a permanent resident visa (a green card). He had to stay in Peru until it arrived. I sent the form to the INS along with \$25 dollars, both of our birth certificates, our marriage license, and a letter from the police to say we had committed no crimes. In a month he was able to pick up his permission to travel and his green card at the American Embassy in Lima and return to the US, so we could both go to college.

My marriage to Cesar ended in 1998 although it was a few years till we were legally divorced. In 2004, I married Youssef Amraoui, from Morocco. We were married in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 6th, 2004. This time getting Youssef permanent residence status took more than 5 years. Between the legal fees to file all of the petitions and to pay the immigration lawyer, Irene Wren at Wren and Gateways Law Group, it cost almost \$12,000. Luckily, Youssef had filed for a waiver by himself with no lawyer, so that he did not have to leave the country while he waited for his case to be determined. Imagine getting married and having your new husband have to go back to his country and wait five years to see each other again.

Because the INS was now under the wing of Homeland Security, there were many additional steps which meant additional delays. When I asked Irene why things were taking so long she said that there was a huge backlog of cases, between 4 and 6 years of cases. She said Homeland Security insisted that each case be reviewed by the FBI and since it was not a criminal case, it gathered dust in someone's inbox for a long time.

One time, Homeland Security called and demanded that Youssef come to Milwaukee alone to be "interviewed". We were waiting for a formal interview in Milwaukee that is now a part of the process, but this was not it. The man who called tried to intimidate me when I said that Youssef was not coming alone. I said that either I or the immigration attorney would go with him (I was petrified of his being taken into custody or forcibly removed or never hearing from him again). This man tried to convince me that Youssef could be a "sleeper agent", and they needed to interview him. Because I owned a restaurant and could not leave, I sent the attorney with him. Youssef said they kept him in a room that had shackles but did not shackle him. Irene said this was a scare tactic because Moroccans and other Muslims were all suspects because of the attack on 9/11. They

just wanted to see if he would come or he would run. That was a horrible day.

It seemed like every time we would reach the end of the process there would be more forms to fill out, more fees to pay, and more of an indefinite wait. At one point in the process, the fees were doubled. We paid the majority of our discretionary income to this process. Youssef's parents were old, and he lived in fear that they would die before he was able to go and see them. You have to have permission to leave the country once the papers are filed. If you leave without permission, you cannot come back.

I know many people here who are undocumented. The press has been talking a lot about a "path to citizenship". I think very few of the people saying this have any idea what is really involved. Because of the high fees of immigration attorneys, the many steps of the process and the time involved, many will have a hard time coming up with the money for this process.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE GREEN BROS. PHARMACY

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Green Bros. Pharmacy in Stockton, CA, which closed its doors in 2012 after 82 years of business. The Green Bros. Pharmacy was one of Stockton's last remaining independent pharmacies.

This pharmacy, operated by Charlie Green, opened 82 years ago in downtown Stockton, and has served thousands of people throughout the area. Mr. Green has been a tremendous advocate on behalf of pharmacies and patients for decades. He served as president of the San Joaquin Pharmacists Association, the California Pharmacists Association, and the American Pharmacists Association, drawing on his firsthand experience about the needs of independent pharmacists and patients in San Joaquin County and across the country. Mr. Green worked tirelessly to improve our health care system. In addition, Mr. Green taught at the University of Pacific in the Pharmacy Department, educating and mentoring young students. I've had the pleasure of meeting with these students when they visit our nation's capital each year and know their dedication and commitment to our community. I know that Mr. Green played a part in their development as professionals. In recognition of his dedication, work ethic, and exemplary work, Mr. Green was presented with the Daniel B. Smith Excellence Award.

Independent pharmacies are essential to our communities, and businesses like Green Bros. have been a staple of neighborhoods across the country because of their personalized service, affordable prices, and ability to help patients.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tremendous contributions of Green Bros. Pharmacy to San Joaquin County, as well as other independent pharmacies across the country.

HONORING KYLE ALLEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Allen. Kyle is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kyle has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Allen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
NICOLE A. VILLARUZ**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Nicole A. Villaruz, who has served as a valued member of my staff for the past eight years. Nicole joined my staff during my first term in Congress and has since become my District Director. This month, Nicole will be leaving my staff to work for California State Senator Michael Rubio in Bakersfield, California. Nicole's years of service to the people of Central California in the 16th and 20th Congressional Districts, spanning from Kern County to Merced County, deserve to be commended. Her character truly exemplifies the spirit of the San Joaquin Valley. Her strong work ethic, coupled with her positive attitude and zest for life make her true champion for the people of Central California. It is only fitting and proper that she be recognized by my colleagues in Congress.

Nicole has a long history of community service and involvement. While attending Delano High School in Delano, California, Nicole was a member of the Key Club, the National Honor Society, and was a lifetime member of the California Scholarship Federation. Along with her academic pursuits, Nicole was also a member of the ASB Senate and was head cheerleader during her senior year. In 1996, Nicole was named Delano's Junior Miss for the Class of 1997. She went on to California's Junior Miss, where she received top ten honors. In 1997, she earned the Good Citizens Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution. Clearly, her many endeavors during her teenage years served as an indicator for her commitment to service and leadership.

Upon graduating from Delano High School in 1997, Nicole attended the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), the largest public university in the UC system, and one of the most prestigious. Nicole was a member of

Alpha Phi Sorority, where she held a number of leadership positions. She graduated in 2002 with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science.

In 2001, Nicole was named Miss Kern County with a platform promoting civic virtue. Shortly thereafter, Nicole joined my staff in Bakersfield, California as a District Representative. Nicole's passion has always been helping others. As a District Representative, Nicole met with a number of constituents and organizations, often recognizing their needs and working hard to resolve their problems—whether it meant cutting through red tape when dealing with federal agencies, or leading constituents to the correct branch of government.

Nicole became my District Director in 2011 and she relocated to my Fresno district office. Her years of expertise and knowledge were essential in guaranteeing the success of my District offices. Nicole served as a mentor to many members of my staff—her guidance often helping them reach their full potential and ultimately ensured the well-being of our constituents.

Nicole's work and service has been recognized by many organizations. Most recently, she was honored by the Delano Chamber of Commerce with their Hazel Boone Award for her superior service. She currently volunteers for Distinguished Young Women of California (formerly California's Junior Miss) and serves as a choreographer/dance instructor.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and pride that I recognize Ms. Villaruz today for her many contributions to my Congressional offices in Fresno and Bakersfield. It has truly been an honor to watch her grow professionally. She is an exceptional leader and will undoubtedly continue to do great things for our Valley.

HONORING DR. MARVIN E.
ROBINSON**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Dr. Marvin E. Robinson in business leadership and community service.

Dr. Robinson received his undergraduate degree at Southern University, where he served as president of the student body and found great success in his athletic pursuits as the co-captain of the Jaguar Tracksters. He began his career with the Congress of Racial Equality, first working as Field Secretary and then serving as Southern Regional Director during the early 1960s. Dr. Robinson earned his juris doctor from Howard University School of Law in 1968.

Continuing his work for racial equality, Dr. Robinson assisted in the development of a high school specializing in business and management during the height of desegregation of the school system. As the first director of this school, he oversaw a student body of 1,500 youth.

Dr. Robinson's entrepreneurial spirit soon drew him to the Xerox Corporation, where he was responsible for the operations, telecommunications, and planning for Xerox's Office Products Division facilities across the na-

tion. Based on his success in this position, Dr. Robinson became Assistant to the President of Community Affairs at Xerox, responsible for the creation and implementation of a community involvement program. This program established Xerox as an excellent corporate citizen in Dallas.

Dr. Robinson moved on from Xerox in 1985 to purchase a Burger King Franchise. With his business acumen, he was able to increase the restaurant's gross income by over \$150,000 in just one year.

In 1988, Dr. Robinson was named the President and CEO of Accommodations, Inc., a concession management company. He purchased the company and became its sole owner in 1995.

Dr. Robinson is a pillar of the Dallas community not only because of his leadership in business, but also because of his community service. Dr. Robinson has been involved in the Dallas County Salvation Army, the Dallas Park and Recreation Department, the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, the Advisory Council for Technical Vocational Education, and Dallas Dash with the Disabled, among many other local organizations. As a patron of the arts, Dr. Robinson served as the Board President of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre for twenty years. In 2007, Dr. Robinson received the Dallas Historical Society's Award for Excellence in Community Service.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the significant contributions that Dr. Robinson has made to the Dallas community. As a business and community leader for decades, he has worked hard to change Dallas for the better.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF
INDIANOLA**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Indianola, Iowa, for earning the Connected program's Connected certification. Indianola is the first community in the state of Iowa and the third in the country to garner this technology designation.

The Connected certification is a title applied to communities that display top-tier proficiency in the access and utilization of broadband-supported technologies. This coveted certification is awarded by Connected Nation and its subsidiary Connect Iowa, who advocate for broadband access on the state and national levels.

The City of Indianola is one of more than 30 communities across Iowa actively participating in the Connected program, and the first to become formally certified. Indianola has a team in place that has developed a comprehensive plan to increase broadband access by assessing the broadband landscape, identifying gaps, and establishing manageable goals. Attaining the Connected certification adds to the long list of desirable attributes that make Indianola such a great place to raise a family or grow a business.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the City of Indianola for its commitment to embracing and efficiently utilizing technology for the benefit of its residents and businesses. It is a great honor to represent the citizens of Indianola,